

29 June 1959

## MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

SUBJECT: Studies of Communications Vulnerability

1. In connection with paragraph 3a. of your Memorandum for the United States Intelligence Board, the Board of National Estimates would suggest three possible approaches to the preparation of the intelligence aspect of this study.

- a. This study could be prepared as an SNIE.
- b. This study could be undertaken by the SIC.
- c. This study could be undertaken by the ad hoc group now working on an analysis of future developments in connection with Soviet communications capabilities.

2. Although we have no objections to using the NIE machinery for the preparation of this study, we believe that either the SIC or the ad hoc committee would be preferable. There is a heavy load of estimates already scheduled for the next quarter and we anticipate several SNIEs in connection with the Berlin situation and other possible crises that may break this summer. For this reason the Board of National Estimates is somewhat reluctant to undertake this rather specialized task at this time.

FOR THE BOARD OF NATIONAL ESTIMATES:

SHERMAN KENT  
Assistant Director  
National Estimates